

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 INRE-00 SS-15

NSC-10 DRC-01 /065 W

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O 021528Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5984

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PINT, MILI

SUBJ: NEWSWEEK ARTICLE

REF: STATE 195002

1. THE FOLLOWING IMPRESSIONS OF AN EMBOFF'S VISIT TO THE MORGUE
MAY AID THE DEPT IN EVALUATING THE SUBJECT ARTICLE.

2. CONSUL VISITED MORGUE 27 SEPT IN ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY AMCIT
REPORTEDLY THERE--TURNED OUT TO BE MISIDENTIFICATION. SAW AP-
PROXIMATELY 150-175 BODIES IN CENTRAL GROUND FLOOR HALL--PROBABLY
SAME AS MENTIONED IN ARTICLE. APPEARED THAT MOST HAD BEEN THERE
SEVERAL DAYS. ALL WERE NAKED OR MOSTLY SO, APPARENTLY BECAUSE
AUTOPSY HAD BEEN DONE ON THEM. AUTOPSIES DID NOT APPEAR TO BE
CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENT FROM THOSE DONE IN NORMAL TIMES. UNDER CHILEAN
LAW AUTOPSY PERFORMED ON ALL DEAD REGARDLESS OF CAUSE OF DEATH.

3. CONSUL OBSERVED THAT MOST DEATHS CAUSED BY APPARENT BULLET
WOUNDS OF VARIOUS CALIBERS. SIZES AND LOCATIONS OF BULLET-HOLES
VARIED CONSIDERABLY, INDICATING DIFFERENT ANGLES AND DISTANCES
AT TIME OF IMPACT. DID NOT RPT NOT NOTICE ANY WHICH HAD BEEN SHOT
UNDER CHIN, AND CERTAINLY WOULD NOT RPT NOT SAY "MOST" WERE SO.
MOST APPEARED TO BE YOUNG, BUT A FEW SEEMED TO BE BEARED OLDER
MEN. SAW NO GIRLS, AN EASY DISTINCTION BECAUSE GENITALS OF MOST
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WERE EXPOSED. ALSO SAW NO CRUSHED HEADS, ALTHOUGH TOPS OF A

FEW HEADS HAD BEEN APPARENTLY SHOT OFF, PERHAPS BY HEAVY CALIBER WEAPONS. CHILEAN AUTOPSY REGULATIONS REQUIRE THAT HEADS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DIED OF CRANIAL WOUNDS BE OPENED AND EXAMINED.

4. CONSUL ACCOMPANIED BY AMCIT WHO WAS FRIEND OF PERSON TO BE IDENTIFIED. THIS AMCIT SPENT APPROX. TWENTY-THIRTY MINUTES, VIEWING ALL BODIES INDIVIDUALLY, AND NEVER COMMENTED ON LIKELIHOOD THEY RESULT OF MASS EXECUTION. DID NOT STATE THAT ANY HAD APPARENTLY BEEN SHOT AT CLOSE RANGE NOR ANY SHOT UNDER CHIN. DAVIS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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30 JUN 2005

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